

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

This is my candidate statement for re-election as MINOS Co-Spokesperson. I'd like to begin by expressing my deep gratitude to all of you for the confidence that you have shown me, Stan, Jenny, and many others, in the past few years. We have tried our best, and succeeded more often than not, in navigating the MINOS collaboration through various obstacles and difficulties. I am particularly proud to have been a part of this adventure not just because we have been, and I think are still, the premier long-baseline neutrino experiment in the world, but also because of the experience of working with you in a field and on an experiment that builds *scientists*, who can contribute to knowledge for years to come. I think our type of general collaboration and MINOS in particular are an important offset to the overspecialization that can affect other HEP experiments. Where else can you expect that great grad students and young scientists attend most or all physics meetings, and know all the insides of the experiment? I am honored to have been able to play a part in the leadership of this remarkable group.

That said, why am I now requesting to continue as your Co-spokesperson? My main reasons are: continuity through change, teamwork within the leadership and my determination to get the most out of NuMI, its upgrades, and the MINOS detectors in the next three years.

We must acknowledge, as expected by our planning, that our collaboration is changing. People's careers are developing and they require options to focus elsewhere. New people continue to come to us, but the group is growing smaller. In these circumstances, I can provide an anchor: my position is stable and well-known to the community and the laboratory leadership – and I have my own “institutional memory” that has often allowed me to make important connections within the laboratory that keep things moving when it's good to do so.

In the midst of change, we are also pressing for new science. I've always been hoping that we would not have to just move away from MINOS in the NOvA era. The MINOS+ proposal, in which many of you are involved, is a demonstration of just how much physics remains to be done to explore the PMNS sector. I am eager to be able to push hard for this extension/new experiment and excited by the possibilities it offers to *really* take full advantage of an upgraded NuMI facility.

Assuming MINOS+ goes forward, stable leadership at this time can provide a platform for a well-reasoned and discussed transition. Respecting both those who choose to move on and those who want to continue, I plan to devote a large fraction of my own resources to managing this transition so as to provide maximum recognition and satisfaction to the collaboration.

Secondly, I would like to emphasize teamwork. It is probably clear to everyone that Jenny and I are not the same! But we have disagreed almost never (if ever) on essentials. Our team has been productive and the proof is clear – the experiment is strong and scientifically sound. I believe we (to use an overused word) complement each other's styles and strengths and that we work together effectively. I am personally delighted to be nominated to continue this partnership.

Lastly, my ideas for the next period.

- 1) Complete the MINOS physics program, with special focus on students.
- 2) Get approval for the MINOS+ proposal! Sometimes this needs several interactions with the PAC.
- 3) Strengthen the collaboration by continued recruiting and expanding the physics case.
- 4) Create a transition model by the end of U.S. FY11 which causes minimal disruption.
- 5) Make sure laboratory budgets represent the reality of what the collaboration is doing. Also, continue to hammer the laboratory to make sure they know what they have in NuMI, MINOS, and Soudan, and what they have to do to use it effectively.
- 6) Strengthen international ties for both the collaboration and for NuMI.

To conclude this over-long statement, I will simply say that I hope you will have confidence in me to continue to provide representation and direction for our collaboration. I sincerely appreciate your support and I can't say enough what all your work has meant to particle physics and to me personally. Thanks for everything.